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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/709,126	04/15/2004	Tseng-Yao Chen	12573-US-PA	3125
31561	7590	09/07/2005	EXAMINER	
JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE			CHAN, WING F	
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2			2643	
TAIPEI, 100				
TAIWAN				

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/709,126	CHEN, TSENG-YAO	
	Examiner Wing F. Chan	Art Unit 2643	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 19-22 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 8-18 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

Art Unit: 2643

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Weng (US PAT No. 6,512,820).

Weng discloses an external bilateral telephone interface remote control system as claimed. Weng's system comprising an external remote control host (e.g. mainframe 10 see Fig. 2) for connecting to the telephone line (e.g. 118) and an output to an external remote control extension (e.g. signal converter 30, sensing signal emitter 70 and special controller 60) for forming a remote control network as to control the wire or wireless switch via a phone. The external host 10 comprises a phone interface processing unit 112, a memory 110, processing unit 102, display unit 116, RF wireless transceiving unit 104, 106 (e.g. see Fig. 1); the external remote control extension further comprising a feedback module 70, processing unit 302 (Fig. 3), RF wireless transceiving unit 304, 704, a switch driving module (e.g. special controller 60) adapted for turning on or off the wire or wireless switch, an address encoding unit 608 (e.g. Fig. 5).

- 5). See abstract, all figures, col. 2 line 42 to col. 5 line 9 for example.

As to claim 2, note power supply and backup power source 126 in Weng.

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Weng.

As to claim 3, although Weng does not explicitly disclose a keyboard, however Weng in col. 3 lines 53-55 discloses an I/O expansion circuit 126 for connected to other devices. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Weng's I/O circuit to couple to a keyboard for programming purposes and the like.

As to claim 4, to provide additional external remote control extension units is deemed obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to control additional devices and also since duplication of parts is not patentable.

As to claim 5, it is common knowledge that all electronic devices require some sort of power supply, thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the external remote control extension to comprise a power source similar to that of the mainframe host 10 in order to power the extension unit.

As to claim 6, to provide the external remote control extension with a keyboard would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide for programming of the extension unit.

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5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Weng in view of Leonaggeo et al (US PAT. NO. 5,646,605).

Weng differs from the claimed invention in not disclosing a motor, sensing unit for activating a lock. However, it is old and well known in the art to use a telephone to remotely activate a lock, for example see Leonaggeo's abstract, all figures. Leonaggeo teaches a remote controlled lock that senses for lock activating commands sent via the telephone line, Yamashita also teaches the lock can be an electric motor lock (e.g. col. 11 line 40-45). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Weng to comprise means for remotely activating locks for conveniently locking an unlocking the remote controlled lock.

6. Claims 8-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 19-22 are allowed.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yasuoka et al (US PAT. NO. 4,885,766) discloses a remote control device using a telephone line.

Johannsen et al (US PAT. NO. 5,774,529) discloses an apparatus to provide remote display of the operation condition of a water treatment system.

Sizer, II et al (US PAT. NO. 6,021,324) discloses a system and apparatus for controlling an appliance situated within a premise using premise recording unit.

Hansen et al (US PAT. NO. 4,436,958) discloses a system using the telephone network to control locks.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wing F. Chan whose telephone number is 571-272-7493. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9 AM to 6 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Wing F. Chan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2643